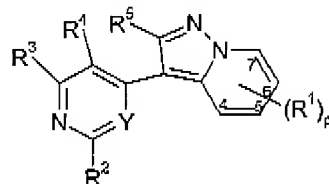


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Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claim 20 as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I):



wherein:

p is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

each R¹ is the same or different and is independently selected from the group

consisting of halo, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, Ay, Het, -OR⁷, -OAY, -OR¹⁰AY, -OHet, -OR¹⁰Het, -C(O)R⁹, -C(O)AY, -C(O)Het, -CO₂R⁹, -C(O)NR⁷R⁸, -C(O)NR⁷AY, -C(O)NHR¹⁰AY, -C(O)NHR¹⁰Het, -C(S)NR⁹R¹¹, -C(NH)NR⁷R⁸, -C(NH)NR⁷AY, -S(O)_nR⁹, -S(O)_nAY, -S(O)_nHet, -S(O)₂NR⁷R⁸, -S(O)₂NR⁷AY, -NR⁷R⁸, -NR⁷AY, -NHHet, -NHR¹⁰AY, -NHR¹⁰Het, -R¹⁰cycloalkyl, -R¹⁰AY, -R¹⁰Het, -R¹⁰O-C(O)R⁹, -R¹⁰O-C(O)AY, -R¹⁰O-C(O)Het, -R¹⁰O-S(O)_nR⁹, -R¹⁰OR⁹, -R¹⁰C(O)R⁹, -R¹⁰CO₂R⁹, -R¹⁰C(O)NR⁹R¹¹, -R¹⁰C(O)NR⁷AY, -R¹⁰C(O)NHR¹⁰Het, -R¹⁰C(S)NR⁹R¹¹, -R¹⁰C(NH)NR⁹R¹¹, -R¹⁰SO_nR⁹, -R¹⁰SO₂NR⁹R¹¹, -R¹⁰SO₂NHCOR⁹, -R¹⁰NR⁷R⁸, -R¹⁰NR⁷AY, -R¹⁰NHC(NH)NR⁹R¹¹, cyano, nitro and azido; or

two adjacent R¹ groups together with the atoms to which they are bonded form a C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or a 5 or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing 1 or 2 heteroatoms;

each R⁷ and R⁸ are the same or different and are independently selected from

the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, -C(O)R⁹, -CO₂R⁹, -C(O)NR⁹R¹¹, -C(S)NR⁹R¹¹, -C(NH)NR⁹R¹¹, -SO₂R¹⁰, -SO₂NR⁹R¹¹, -R¹⁰cycloalkyl, -R¹⁰OR⁹, -R¹⁰C(O)R⁹, -R¹⁰CO₂R⁹, -R¹⁰C(O)NR⁹R¹¹, -R¹⁰C(S)NR⁹R¹¹, -R¹⁰C(NH)NR⁹R¹¹, -R¹⁰SO₂R¹⁰, -R¹⁰SO₂NR⁹R¹¹, -R¹⁰SO₂NHCOR⁹, -R¹⁰NR⁹R¹¹, -R¹⁰NHCOR⁹, -R¹⁰NHSO₂R⁹ and -R¹⁰NHC(NH)NR⁹R¹¹;

each R⁹ and R¹¹ are the same or different and are independently selected

from the group consisting of H, alkyl, cycloalkyl, -R¹⁰cycloalkyl, -R¹⁰OH, -R¹⁰(OR¹⁰)_w where w is 1-10, and -R¹⁰NR¹⁰R¹⁰;

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each R^{10} is the same or different and is independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl and cycloalkenyl;

Ay is aryl;

Het is a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic or heteroaryl group;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of halo, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, Ay, Het, $-OR^7$, $-OAY$, $-OHet$, $-OR^{10}Het$, $-S(O)_nR^9$, $-S(O)_nAY$, $-S(O)_nNR^7R^8$, $-S(O)_nHet$, $-NR^7R^8$, $-NHHet$, $-NHR^{10}AY$, $-NHR^{10}Het$, $-R^{10}NR^7R^8$ and $-R^{10}NR^7AY$;

n is 0, 1 or 2;

Y is N;

R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, halo, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, Ay, Het, $-OR^7$, $-OAY$, $-C(O)R^7$, $-C(O)AY$, $-CO_2R^7$, $-CO_2AY$, $-SO_2NHR^9$, $-NR^7R^8$, $-NR^7AY$, $-NHHet$, $-NHR^{10}Het$, $-R^{10}cycloalkyl$, $-R^{10}OR^7$, $-R^{10}OAY$, $-R^{10}NR^7R^8$ and $-R^{10}NR^7AY$;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of H, halo, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, $-OR^7$, $-OAY$, $-OHet$, $-OR^{10}AY$, $-OR^{10}Het$, $-C(O)R^9$, $-C(O)AY$, $-C(O)Het$, $-CO_2R^9$, $-C(O)NR^7R^8$, $-C(O)NR^7AY$, $-C(O)NHR^{10}Het$, $-CH(OR^9)_2$, $-CH(OR^9)-R^{10}$, $-CH(OR^9)-AY$, $-C(S)NR^9R^{11}$, $-C(NH)NR^7R^8$, $-C(NH)NR^7AY$, $-S(O)_nR^9$, $-S(O)_2NR^7R^8$, $-S(O)_2NR^7AY$, $-NR^7R^8$, $-NR^7AY$, $-NHHet$, $-NHR^{10}AY$, $-NHR^{10}Het$, $-R^{10}cycloalkyl$, $-R^{10}AY$, $-R^{10}Het$, $-R^{10}OR^9$, $-R^{10}C(O)R^9$, $-R^{10}C(O)AY$, $-R^{10}C(O)Het$, $-R^{10}CO_2R^9$, $-R^{10}C(O)NR^9R^{11}$, $-R^{10}C(O)NR^7AY$, $-R^{10}C(O)NHR^{10}Het$, $-R^{10}CH(OR^9)-R^{10}$, $-R^{10}CH(OR^9)-AY$, $-R^{10}C(S)NR^9R^{11}$, $-R^{10}C(NH)NR^9R^{11}$, $-R^{10}SO_nR^9$, $-R^{10}SO_2NR^9R^{11}$, $-R^{10}SO_2NHCOR^9$, $-R^{10}NR^7R^8$, $-R^{10}NR^7AY$, $-R^{10}NHC(NH)NR^9R^{11}$, cyano, nitro and azido; or

wherein when Y is CH, R^3 is not $-NR^7AY$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 wherein each R^1 is the same or different and is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, alkyl, cycloalkyl, Ay, Het, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)R^9$, $-C(O)Het$, $-CO_2R^9$, $-C(O)NR^7R^8$, $-C(O)NR^7AY$, $-C(O)NHR^{10}Het$, $-S(O)_nR^9$, $-S(O)_2NR^7R^8$, $-S(O)_2NR^7AY$, $-NR^7R^8$, $-NR^7AY$, $-NHHet$, $-NHR^{10}AY$, $-NHR^{10}Het$, $-R^{10}cycloalkyl$, $-R^{10}Het$, $-R^{10}OR^9$, $-R^{10}C(O)NR^7AY$, $-R^{10}SO_2NHCOR^9$, $-R^{10}NR^7R^8$, $-R^{10}NR^7AY$, cyano, nitro and azido.

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3. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 wherein each R^1 is the same or different and is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, Ay, Het, $-NR^7R^8$ and $-NR^7Ay$.
4. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1 wherein p is 0 or 1.
5. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of halo, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, Ay, Het, $-OR^7$, $-O Ay$, $-OHet$, $-OR^{10}Het$, $-S(O)_nR^9$, $-NR^7R^8$, $-NHHet$, $-NHR^{10}Het$, $-R^{10}NR^7R^8$ and $-R^{10}NR^7Ay$.
6. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R^2 is $-NR^7R^8$.
- 7-8. (Canceled.)
9. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, halo, alkyl, Ay, $-OR^7$, $-CO_2R^7$, $-NR^7R^8$, $-R^{10}OR^7$ and $-R^{10}NR^7R^8$.
10. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R^3 and R^4 are both H.
11. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R^5 is selected from the group consisting of halo, alkyl, cycloalkyl, $-OR^7$, $-C(O)R^9$, $-C(O)Ay$, $-C(O)Het$, $-CH(OR^9)-R^{10}$, $-CH(OR^9)-Ay$, $-S(O)_nR^9$, $-S(O)_2NR^7R^8$, $-NR^7R^8$, $-NR^7Ay$, $-R^{10}cycloalkyl$, $-R^{10}Ay$, $-R^{10}Het$, $-R^{10}OR^9$, $-R^{10}C(O)R^9$, $-R^{10}SO_2NR^9R^{11}$ and $-R^{10}NR^7R^8$.
12. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^5 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, $-C(O)Ay$, $-CH(OR^9)-Ay$, $-R^{10}cycloalkyl$, $-R^{10}Ay$, $-R^{10}OR^9$ and $-R^{10}NR^7R^8$.

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13. (Previously Presented) A compound selected from the group consisting of:

- 2-Isobutyl-3-[2-(methylthio)pyrimidin-4-yl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridine;
2-Isobutyl-3-[2-(methylsulfinyl)pyrimidin-4-yl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridine;
N-Cyclopentyl-4-(2-isobutylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)pyrimidin-2-amine;
N-Cyclopentyl-4-[2-isobutyl-7-(methylthio)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl]pyrimidin-2-amine;
N-Cyclopentyl-4-[2-isobutyl-7-(methylsulfinyl)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl]pyrimidin-2-amine;
N-Cyclopentyl-3-[2-(cyclopentylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-2-isobutylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-7-amine;
2-(Diethoxymethyl)-3-[2-(methylthio)pyrimidin-4-yl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridine;
3-[2-(Methylthio)pyrimidin-4-yl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridine-2-carbaldehyde;
{3-[2-(methylthio)pyrimidin-4-yl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-2-yl}(phenyl)methanol;
{3-[2-(Cyclopentylamino)-4-pyrimidinyl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-2-yl}(phenyl)methanol;
{3-[2-(Cyclopentylamino)-4-pyrimidinyl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-2-yl}(phenyl)methanone;
{7-(Cyclopentylamino)-3-[2-(cyclopentylamino)-4-pyrimidinyl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-2-yl}(phenyl)methanone;
4-(2-Benzylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)-*N*-cyclopentyl-2-pyrimidinamine;
4-(2-Benzyl-7-chloropyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)-*N*-cyclopentyl-2-pyrimidinamine;
N-(4-[2-Benzyl-7-(cyclopentylamino)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl]-2-pyrimidinyl)-*N*-cyclopentylamine;
N-Cyclopentyl-4-[2-(methoxymethyl)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl]-2-pyrimidinamine;
N-Cyclopentyl-4-[2-(methoxymethyl)-7-(methylsulfonyl)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl]-2-pyrimidinamine;
N-Cyclopentyl-3-[2-(cyclopentylamino)-4-pyrimidinyl]-2-(methoxymethyl)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-7-amine;
N-Cyclopentyl-3-[2-(cyclopentylamino)-4-pyrimidinyl]-2-[3-(1-pyrrolidinyl)propyl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-7-amine;
N-({3-[2-(Methylsulfonyl)-4-pyrimidinyl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-2-yl)methyl}-2-propanamine;
N-Cyclopentyl-4-{2-[(isopropylamino)methyl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl}-2-pyrimidinamine;

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N-Cyclopentyl-3-[2-(cyclopentylamino)-4-pyrimidinyl]-2-[(isopropylamino)methyl]-pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-7-amine;
4-{7-Chloro-2-[3-(isopropylamino)propyl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl}-*N*-cyclopentyl-2-pyrimidinamine;
N-Cyclopentyl-3-[2-(cyclopentylamino)-4-pyrimidinyl]-2-[3-(isopropylamino)propyl]-pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-7-amine;
4-{7-Chloro-2-[(2-methoxyethoxy)methyl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl}-*N*-cyclopentyl-2-pyrimidinamine;
3-[2-(Cyclopentylamino)-4-pyrimidinyl]-2-[(2-methoxyethoxy)methyl]-*N*-(2-methoxyethyl)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-7-amine;
N-Cyclopentyl-3-[2-(cyclopentylamino)-4-pyrimidinyl]-2-[(2-methoxyethoxy)methyl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-7-amine;
N-Cyclopentyl-4-(2-isopropylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)pyrimidin-2-amine;
N-Cyclopentyl-3-[2-(cyclopentylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-2-isopropylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-7-amine;
2-Cyclopropyl-3-[2-(methylthio)pyrimidin-4-yl]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridine;
N-Cyclopentyl-4-(2-cyclopropylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)pyrimidin-2-amine; and
N-Cyclopentyl-3-[2-(cyclopentylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-2-cyclopropylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-7-amine;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1.
15. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
16. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14, further comprising an antiviral agent selected from the group consisting of aciclovir and valaciclovir or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
17. (Previously Presented) A method for the treatment of a herpes viral infection selected from herpes simplex virus 1 and herpes simplex virus 2 in an animal, said method comprising administering to the animal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

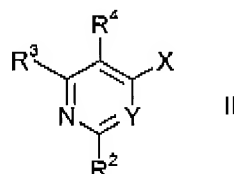
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18. (Canceled.)

19. (Previously Presented) A method for the treatment of a condition or disease associated with a herpes viral infection selected from herpes simplex virus 1 and herpes simplex virus 2 in an animal, comprising administering to the animal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

20. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound according to claim 1 wherein R^2 is selected from $-NR^7R^8$, Het, $-NHR^{10}$ Het and $-NHHet$ and R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and are each independently H or alkyl, said process comprising the steps of:

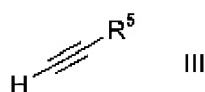
a) coupling a compound of formula (II):



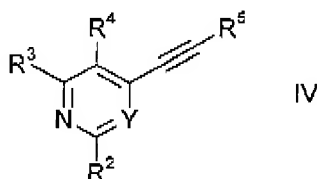
wherein X is chloro, bromo, iodo or triflate;

R^2 is selected from $-NR^7R^8$, Het, $-NHR^{10}$ Het and $-NHHet$ and

R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and are each independently H or alkyl;
to a terminal alkyne of formula (III):

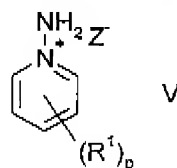


to prepare a compound of formula (IV):



and

b) reacting an *N*-amino pyridinium salt of formula (V):



wherein Z- is a counterion;

with the compound of the formula (IV) to prepare a compound of formula (I).

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21-28. (Canceled.)